



Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services

255 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20850
240-777-6278 Fax: 240-777-6262



PROCEDURE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PERMITTING SERVICES HOMEOWNERS ELECTRICAL EXAM

In order to obtain a homeowner permit, applicant must schedule an appointment to appear in person and:

- a) Complete the application for Electrical Permit;
- b) Take the Homeowners Electrical Exam;
- c) Complete the affidavit that the applicant is the owner of record or a member of the owner's immediate family and will conduct the work for the applicant's or the applicant's immediate family's use; and that said applicant will personally install the electrical work **without any outside assistance; and that such installation shall be done on applicant's or the applicant's immediate family's premise only; and**
- d) Pay required fee (see the schedule on back of application for electrical permits).

After the permit is obtained, the homeowner is responsible for:

- a) Performing the electrical work according to rules and regulations of the electrical code at Montgomery County;
- b) Performing the electrical work as described on the electrical permit submitted;
- c) Notifying the electrical inspection section when the work is ready for inspection prior to the enclosing of any work and prior to making final connections for energizing the wiring or any part thereof. **When ready for inspection, call (240) 777-6210; and**
- d) Placing an order with the customer service section of appropriate power company, where applicable.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. There are four types Homeowners Electrical Exams:
 - a) Outlets and Fixtures – 12 questions, 8 answers required to pass;
 - b) Heavy-Up Exam – 12 questions, 8 correct answers required to pass;

- c) Kitchen Addition Exam – 14 questions, 12 correct answers required to pass; and
- d) New Home Exam – 20 questions, 15 correct answers required to pass.

All exams are multiple choice exams.

- 2. An applicant who fails a Homeowners Exam may retake the exam the next business day, if so desired.
- 3. An applicant may retake a Homeowners Exam as many times as needed to pass the exam.
- 4. Once an applicant passes a Homeowners Exam, the exam remains valid for one year from the date of the exam.

DEFINITIONS

Applicant: “Any person who installs, repairs, or maintains electrical equipment, in a detached single-family residence which that person or a member of the person’s immediate family owns, for the person’s or immediate family’s use.” (Montgomery County Code, Ch. 17-18 (b))

Dwelling: Dwelling Unit – One or more rooms for the use of one or more persons as a housekeeping unit with space for eating, living, and sleeping, and permanent provisions for cooking and sanitation (NEC, 2002).

Single Family Dwelling: A building that consists solely of one dwelling unit (NEC 2002).

EXCLUSIONS

The Montgomery County Homeowner Electrical Exam cannot be used for:

- a) Electrical work in a townhouse, duplex, condominium or any **attached dwelling unit**; or
- b) Electrical work for hot tubs, pools, spas, or any installation governed by Article 680 of the National Electrical Code.